GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1503
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007
TOBACCO BORNE DISEASES
Appadurai Shri M.;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tobacco related diseases are increasing the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of deaths in the country due to the use of tobacco, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has taken any steps to curb the use of tobacco to control tobacco-borne diseases; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT.PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)to(c) : Tobacco is the cause for 50% of cancer deaths, 40% of all health related problems and a majority of cardio-vascular and lung disorders in the country.Moreover, there are studies which show children getting addicted to tobacco at an early age and also of the increase in the percentage of population which consumes tobacco in any form.As per report of Tobacco Control in India, approx. 8-9 lakh persons die annually due to tobacco attributable diseases.

(d) & (e) :'The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003' enacted in the year 2003 is intended to discourage the consumption of tobacco, the salient features of which are as under:-

(i) prohibition of smoking in a public place;

(ii) prohibition of direct and indirect advertisement;

(iii) prohibition of sale of tobacco products to minors;

(iv) prohibition of sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions;

(v) Mandatory depiction to specified pictorial health warnings on all tobacco product packs;

(vi) Mandatory depiction of tar and nicotine contents alongwith maximum permissible limits on tobacco packs.

Strong advocacy efforts have been made with policy makers and other stakeholders in the area of tobacco control.

The Government is in the process of launching a National Programme on Tobacco Control, the pilot of which has already been started in a few of the identified States.